



# The **MAC** **ONE-ACTS**

Play-Reading Festival.

**Sat, June 4th | 7 pm**

# ONE-ACT PLAYS

## **THE LAST WINTER**

by Danielle Umbs

## **LEAVING EARTH**

by Alexis Kozak

## **SHOPTALK**

by TyLie Shider

## **PIZZA THE CAT**

by Eric Craft

## **FLIP YOUR LID**

by Tracie Morrison

# PLAYWRIGHT BIOS

## **DANIELLE UMBS**

Danielle Umbs is a junior in high school from Monmouth Beach, NJ. In addition to playwriting, she is passionate about acting, singing, art and music composition. Her favorite on-stage credits include the likes of Gertrude in *Seussical* and Ladybug in *James and the Giant Peach*. Danielle is a 2021-22 Two River Theater Howard Aronson Metro Scholar. She plans on attending college in order pursue a BFA in acting.

## **ALEXIS KOZAK**

Alexis Kozak studied Theatre Arts and English at Rutgers University. He spent his early twenties in Los Angeles, chasing the dream. Sometime after that, he got an MFA in Playwriting from Boston University and now teaches theatre at Middletown High School South, where he often writes the fall play. He has published *The Diamond as Big as the Ritz*, the only current dramatic adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's eponymous short story. He also has a scene book for high school actors called *The Greatest of All Time*, carried by Eldridge Publishing. Last summer, his play *Two Leopards Climbing a Fire Escape* was read at the MAC and performed at NJ Rep. He loves theatre, soccer, reading and his family...in no particular order. Visit [www.alexiskozak.com](http://www.alexiskozak.com) for on Alexis.

## **TYLIE SHIDER**

TyLie Shider is the inaugural playwright in residence at ArtYard, a 2022-23 McKnight Fellow in Playwriting at the Playwrights' Center (PWC). He is a recipient of Premiere Stages' Liberty Live commission, two consecutive Jerome Fellowships (PWC), and an "I Am Soul" playwright in residence at the National Black Theatre (NBT). Upcoming projects include the fall 2022 NJ premiere of *Certain Aspects of Conflict in the Negro Family* at Premiere Stages, *The Gospel Woman* (NBT), *Whittier* (PWC), and his filmmaking debut *Sign O' the Times*. Screenwriting credits include *Truant*. He holds a BA in Journalism from Delaware State University and an MFA in Dramatic Writing from NYU. A proud member of the Dramatist Guild, he is currently a Professor of Playwriting at Augsburg University, and a staff writer for Minnesota Playlist.

## **ERIC CRAFT**

Eric Craft has written two full-length plays and a full-length musical, *The Blank Page*, for which he wrote the book and lyrics and self-produced out of college. His play, *And Every Creeping Thing*, is currently the subject of his residency with the New Jersey Play Lab. He has multiple one-act plays and monologues which he developed and directed while teaching at The Allegra School of Music and Arts in Hillsborough, New Jersey, including his plays, *Finding the Root* and *The Struggle Bus*. Other one-acts include *The Edge of Infinity*, which received a staged reading with the Chaotic Good Collective, and *Whoa There, Grandma*, which was a featured finalist of The Summit Playhouse's Summer 2020 bake-off. He holds a B.A. in Theatre Studies from Montclair State University.

## **TRACIE MORRISON**

Tracie Evette Morrison resides in Newark, NJ. She earned her BA in English from Rutgers University, Douglass College and her MA in Counseling from Montclair State University. Tracie served 16 years as a School Counselor. She is currently in her first year as a high school Assistant Principal. Her inaugural stage play, *The Prayer Dancer*, was performed at the George Street Playhouse in 2004 and later published in 2015. In March 2022, Dunbar Repertory Company's "Sweet Potato Pie Sessions" presented a Stage Reading of Tracie's newest full length play, *Preach, Preacher*. Her new book: *PRAY-ER: Talk, Listen, Obey Starting & Strengthening Conversations with God* was released November 2021. For almost twenty years Tracie has provoked others to build their own capacity through her teaching, counseling and writing.

# Thank you, actors!

Thank you to all the wonderful actors who so kindly volunteered their time for The MAC ONE-ACTS! We are so grateful that you lent your incredible talent to our event this weekend, it would not have been possible without you.

# SPRING PROGRAMS

## Storybook Theater

6.5 3 PM

The Performing Arts Ensemble presents famous fairy tales with storytelling, dance, mime, singing. For all ages! Call 732.614.5426 to reserve FREE tickets.



## Ruth Crown Memorial Art Exhibit Reception

6.11 1-3 PM

Join us for the Art Society of Monmouth's exhibition featuring 67 members' artworks of various media.



## A Benefit Concert for Ukraine

6.12 4 PM

The awarded Soprano, Malena Towers, performs to the music of Vivaldi, Mozart, Puccini and Lloyd Webber. Reception to follow with a silent art auction. **TICKETS ►**



## MAC Music Café

6.26 4-6 PM

Featuring singer-songwriters Ron Maletich, Barbara Paskin, Frank Patrouch and Michael Baine. Suggested donation of \$5.



## Start of Summer Arts Camps

6.27

Register today for programs in theater, art, music, dance and STEAM camps! **REGISTER ►**



Visit [middletownarts.org](http://middletownarts.org) for the Full Schedule of our upcoming programs and classes.

# MAC MISSION

The Middletown Township Cultural and Arts Council's mission is to celebrate and promote the arts while enriching the community through arts programming, education, entertainment, and cultural connection for individuals of all ages and abilities. Although the building is owned by Middletown Township, it is operated by the Middletown Township Cultural & Arts Council, Inc. (MCTAC), a 501c3 organization dedicated to supporting and promoting the arts.

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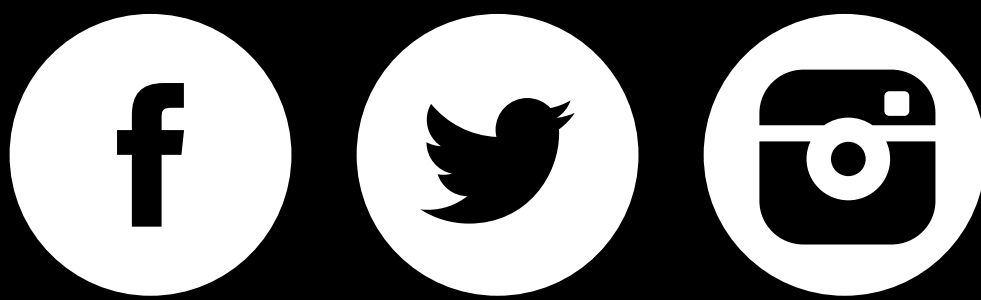
## MIDDLETOWN ARTS CENTER

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